

Message Text

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43

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAM-01

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R 130600Z MAY 75

FM AMCONSUL THESSALONIKI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2338

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE THESSALONIKI 0298

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, GR

SUBJECT: ARREST OF FORMER THESSALONIKI MILITARY COMMANDER
TASSOPOULOS

REF: THESSALONIKI'S 313, JUNE 19, 1974

1. THESSALONIKI PAPERS OF MAY NINE FRONTPAGE REPORT OF ARREST AND INCARCERATION PREVIOUS DAY OF FORMER THESSALONIKI MILITARY COMMANDER AND REPUTED LOCAL PAPADOPOULOS AND IOANNIDIS STRONGMAN, MAJ. GEN. (RET) DEMETRIOS TASSOPOULOS. TASSOPOULOS TRIAL SCHEDULED IN THESSALONIKI MILITARY COURT LATE THIS MONTH ON CHARGES OF "ABUSE OF AUTHORITY AND VIOLATION OF DUTY" FOR FAILURE TO PROSECUTE BROTHERS OF EX-PRES. PAPADOPOULOS AND EX-PM ANDROUTSOPOULOS FOR HUNTING OUT OF SEASON IN PROHIBITED AREA NEARBY (KILKIS).

2. COMMENT: RELATIVE TRIVIALITY OF CHARGE AGAINST LEADING JUNTA STALWART IN NORTHERN GREECE (REF) IS PUZZLING. ONE CREDIBLE THEORY IS THAT WHILE GOG CONSIDERS ITSELF OBLIGED POLITICALLY TO TAKE SOME ACTION AGAINST PROMINENT EXPONENT OF DICTATORIAL REGIME, IT WISHES TO AVOID UNDULY ANTAGONIZING MILITARY AND SOME OTHER ELEMENTS BY SEVERE ACTION AGAINST TASSOPOULOS WHO, DESPITE UNSAVORY AFFILIATION, WAS NOT
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UNSYMPATHETIC NOR UNPOPULAR FIGURE IN CERTAIN CIRCLES OF

INFLUENCE HERE.

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Message Attributes

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